

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Soviet Troop Movements to Training Areas	DATE DISTR.	27 April 1953
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REFERENCES

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1. On 14 April, a unit from the Fliegerhorst Kaserne in Quedlinburg was entrained with light guns and motor vehicles and dispatched toward Magdeburg. The barracks appeared to be about 75% vacant on 16 April.
2. On 19 through 21 April, four troop trains were loaded with units of the 65th Mortar Brigade and three with equipment and motor vehicles from the Infanterie Kaserne in Rathenow. The trains were dispatched toward Altengrabow. Only a guard detail remained at the barracks on the evening of 21 April. The entraining of troops from the Pioneer Kaserne began on the morning of 21 April. A shipment of 16 x 22 mm howitzers and 2 x 76.2 mm field guns was observed. Four additional troop trains were scheduled to be loaded.
3. It was stated at a conference held by Soviet officers that a summer camp was to be established in the Tetorfen-Schoenhoehe area, 15 kilometers northeast of Cottbus. The camp was allegedly larger than the Lieberose-Jamlitz installation.
4. Cottbus butchers, who prior to early April had supplied meat to the Soviets at Weisswasser, delivered only small quantities since then. The butchers say that the units at Weisswasser had moved to the area near Pinnow, Gross and Klein See

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for training. About 20,000 troops are said to be concentrated there. Their meat is being delivered from Guben.

5. Thirty T-34 tanks, 30 SP guns and 33 JS tanks were dispatched from Cottbus to Peitz on 16 April. Tanks and SP guns were sent from Spremberg to Peitz between 17 and 23 April.¹
6. The barracks in Spremberg were occupied by 500 to 600 men on 21 April. The tank sheds and garages were empty. On the same day, the barracks in Luebben quartered only 200 men. All garages were empty.
7. Between 15 and 21 April, 18 troop trains, loaded with troops from Krampnitz, 84 T-34 tanks and 50 JS tanks, were dispatched from Satzkorn to Hillersleben, Wolmirstedt and Colbitz.²
8. Between 19 and 22 April, 20 x 100 mm AT guns, 12 x 122 mm howitzers and 12 to 15 x 76.2 mm AT guns from the Flak Kaserne in Merseburg were loaded on 12 trains. The military post was completely vacated.

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Comments:

1. The entraining operations involved elements of the 9th Mechanized Division which moved from Cottbus and Spremberg to the Teerofen-Schoenhoehe training grounds.
2. These shipments involved major elements of the 10th Guards Tank Division which moved to the area of Letzlinger Heide.

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